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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Daily Report

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Burundi

Daily Reports Ethnic Violence, Coup Imminent

BR2212163794 Groot-Bijgaarden DE STANDAARD in Dutch 22 Dec 94 p 1

[Report by Rik de Gendt: "Takeover in Burundi cannot be far off"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A takeover by extremist Tutsis in Burundi cannot be far off, in the view of observers in the capital Bujumbura. Militiamen and soldiers are carrying out a plan which recalls the extermination of the Hutus in 1972. Yesterday militiamen killed dozens of people. Soldiers then picked up the bodies and took them away, DE STANDAARD was informed by telephone.

President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya visited the worst affected districts of Musuga and Bwiza on Wednesday afternoon. Many homes had been burned and looted during the previous 24 hours. Their occupants had either been killed or had fled.

In an attempt to bring the situation under control, the Council of Ministers hurriedly decided to impose a curfew from 1900 hours. But at first sight this did not help much. At 0600 hours bloodthirsty young Tutsis again entered Bwiza to systematically continue their ethnic cleansing activities.

The emergency regulation in fact gives them a free hand. Elite troops from the Burundian Army were apparently brought in during the night or this morning from the Tutsi stronghold of Gitega.

This force is very divided, reports one Belgian in Bujumbura. Some of the soldiers protect Hutus, while others leave the murderers to do as they please.

The special envoy of the Organization for African Unity, Ahmedou Uld Abdallah, yesterday held a crisis meeting with Western and African ambassadors. Many of Bujumbura's inhabitants are pinning all their hopes on an international initiative to avert a total catastrophe.

Mayor Announces Additional Security Measures

EA2212213094 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] As a result of the insecurity which has been prevailing lately in Bujumbura, steps were taken to reimpose peace. Currently, things seem to be returning to normal. This was said by town mayor Leonce Sinzinkayo, who added that the measures were useful. The mayor announced the following additional measures.

[Begin Sinzinkayo recording] First, I ask the capital's residents to respect the steps which were decided upon last night.

Second, I would like to thank all those who reported to work this morning and take the opportunity to ask all

town residents to report to work tomorrow morning whether they are workers or students.

Third, I also take the opportunity to ask Otraco [Urban Public Transport Company] and private transport operators to work tomorrow morning as usual.

Fourth, we ask those who wish to move about during the curfew time to apply for permission by writing to the mayor.

Fifth, we call upon people who used to reside in Bwiza zone, who fled because of the insecurity which has been prevailing there for the last few days, to report to the heads of the zones and areas where they took refuge to make the work of returning them to Bwiza easier.

I would like to inform you that peace and tranquility, which are returning gradually, seem to have been re-established enough for the refugees to return to Bwiza and guard their houses and property there. This will stop people from robbing or destroying them. I would like to announce to those who may still be afraid that it has been decided that administrative and security officials from Bwiza would pick them up and accompany them to their homes. Therefore they should not be afraid.

Sixth, we would like to thank security officials for their work to bring back peace and tranquility to Bwiza and the whole town as quickly as possible.

Seventh, we ask citizens, security officials, administrative officials to work together to bring back peace and tranquility to the town.

Eighth, we once again call upon the youth to renounce killings and looting so that we do not demolish the town at a time when we were rebuilding it. Thanks. [end recording]

Interior Minister: Situation 'Completely Normal'

LD2212225594 Paris Radio France International in French 2130 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] In Burundi the population of Bujumbura is about to enter their second night under curfew. The curfew was imposed yesterday by the Council of Ministers to tackle the wave of violence that had been sweeping the capital for several days. According to the interior minister, the situation is calm this evening in Bwiza district, the scene of recent clashes. Burundian Interior Minister Jean-Baptiste Manwangari [title as heard] spoke to Dominique de Courcelles:

[Begin recording] [Manwangari] The situation is completely normal. There were some problems in Bwiza district, but throughout the day the security forces managed to curb certain disorderly activities that had been going on there. All is calm today throughout the Bujumbura area.

[De Courcelles] Apparently, some people in Bujumbura say that even if a political solution is found to the crisis

that basically has set the powder-keg on fire, it is already too late to restore normality, so grave are the tensions even in the districts which have remained unscathed so far.

[Manwangari] I am not of that opinion because I am quietly convinced that normality can be restored in Bujumbura rapidly and in a lasting fashion. Once the political causes of the present crisis are properly clarified, it will only remain for us to solve problems that have already been confronting us for months—that is to say, we must tackle the problem of the dissemination of weapons which is at the root of the criminality in the country as a whole. Once we manage to take away the weapons disseminated throughout Bujumbura and elsewhere in the country, we believe that security can be restored rapidly. [end recording]

Fighting in Bujumbura Reportedly Spreading

AB2312081694 Paris AFP in English 0756 GMT 23 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bujumbura, Dec 23 (AFP)—Fighting between Hutu and Tutsi militias in Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi, spread Friday [23 December] to the western neighbourhood of Buyenzi, with the youths throwing hand-grenades and firing automatic weapons.

Residents of the Tutsi-dominated Musaga neighbourhood said they could hear shooting in the adjoining southern district of Kanyosha.

The inhabitants of the capital nevertheless resumed normal activities Friday after clashes which since Sunday which have left at least 30 dead and sparked fears of civil war.

Only a few shops remained closed, as was the central post office.

Zaire

Doctor Reports Surge in Epidemics Nationwide

BR2212163994 Antwerp GAZET VAN ANTWERPEN in Dutch 22 Dec 94 p 6

[Unattributed article: "Epidemics Decimating Zairian Population Again—Belgians Gone, Diseases Back"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Jean-Francois Rupol, a Belgian expert in the field of medical cooperation with developing countries, raised the alarm about the catastrophic situation of health care in Zaire. All epidemics and (local) endemic diseases which had been virtually eradicated during the Belgian period, are sweeping the country again these days.

The practically nonexistent health care is partly responsible for the Zairian economy's collapse. "The machinery, which had been very patiently acquired over the years, is badly damaged and almost nonexistent," Rupol stated Tuesday [20 December] night at a conference on Zaire.

"Some medical and paramedical teams are still working here and there in the government institutions, but the entire staff is completely demotivated. The public sector wages, which range from 6 to 100 Belgian francs a month, have hardly any purchasing power, and have not been paid for the last 5 to 15 months. The equipment is outdated, and the funds which are required for the health services' normal functioning are no longer available," the doctor said. He has been in charge of Belgian medical development aid in Rwanda until recently, and before that in Zaire.

"People no longer show up at work because they are not paid. Why should they bother to come, nothing is working anyway?" Rupol added. On the other hand, the sick can no longer afford any medical care or medicines. Medicines which have often already expired, are for sale on the black market at exorbitant prices.

Malaria

Rupol has just come back from a six-week trip through Zaire and found that there is a "catastrophic" trend in epidemics. Malaria has become the main cause of death, and sleeping sickness is more widespread than ever.

"While in 1958 only 1,100 new cases of sleeping sickness were reported in a total of 10 million people examined (1 per mill), 14,000 new cases have already been reported over the first nine months of the current year (2.4 percent), while fewer than 600,000 people have been examined. In some villages as much as 30 percent of the population suffers from sleeping sickness," Rupol stated.

In northern Zaire croup and cretinism occur frequently, as a result of a lack of iodine. The populations of Lower Zaire, Kasai, Central Zaire, and Upper Zaire are heavily affected by river blindness, whereas cholera and bacillary dysentery occur in epidemic forms in eastern Zaire. Tuberculosis has also reemerged, as well as measles and polio, diseases which had been eradicated. All these diseases and epidemics are due to general malnutrition and various deficiencies, especially among children and pregnant women.

Rupol implicitly criticized the Belgian government's attitude. Belgium only provides humanitarian aid through non-governmental organizations [NGOs] because official development aid has been suspended. "The state should not be ignored, it is there and it should play a role. Of course, no money must be spent if there are no positive effects. However, Africa and Zaire must be helped, because we still need these countries. We should not wait until a disaster occurs such as in Rwanda," the doctor said.

On his return from Zaire, Rupol was dismissed by ABOS (General Administration for Development Aid, which is the Development Aid State Secretariat's administration), because on his own admission he failed to inform his supervisors of his mission. He is currently working for the NGOs.

Mandela Notes 'Parasitic Class' Emerging in ANC
MB2212145794 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
22 Dec 94 pp 1, 3

[Report by Kaizer Nyatumba]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bloemfontein—Financial discipline in the ANC had broken down so badly that "a parasitic class" had even emerged in the organisation, President Mandela said yesterday.

Closing the ANC's congress, Mandela said it was "something of an irony" that ANC members continued to talk about the "endemic corruption, waste and inefficiency" inherited by the Government of National Unity when the organisation itself was not much different.

He said he was sorry that the ANC's financial report had not been read to the congress for discussion, because delegates would not know the true state of the organisation's financial position.

"It is something of an irony that as a Government led by the ANC we should talk of inefficiency and waste in Government when in fact there is no financial discipline in the ANC, when there is waste and inefficiency.

"It is proper that you should know the facts about how we have been incompetent, about how a parasitic class in the ANC has emerged, where regions cannot raise funds themselves and depend on ANC headquarters," Mandela said.

The ANC's financial report was not presented to the congress because of shortage of time, but a compromise agreed to by delegates was that the report—covering the period between January 1992 and September this year and to have been presented by then acting treasurer-general Henry Makgothi—will now be presented to the new national executive committee.

Mandela disclosed that former treasurer-general Thomas Nkobi had raised R89 million [rands] for ANC coffers this year alone before his death after the April election.

Between February 1990 and June last year he had raised R231 million in Africa and R156 million in Asia, which had helped to reduce the ANC's overdraft.

Mandela 'Persuaded' Ramaphosa To Stay in Post
MB2212191394 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English
22 Dec 94 p 1

[Report by David Greybe]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bloemfontein—President Nelson Mandela and ANC provincial premiers had persuaded a reluctant Cyril Ramaphosa not to quit his post as party secretary general, a source close to Ramaphosa said at the close of the ANC's national conference yesterday.

Two months ago Ramaphosa—exhausted after protracted negotiations and the general elections, and dejected because

Mandela had chosen Thabo Mbeki as a Deputy President—told his aides he intended to step down.

However, ANC leaders would not agree to this, the source said. "In the end he was given no option. They (ANC leaders) made it clear to him that the party mattered more than he did." Ramaphosa's fate was sealed when Arnold Stofile, the only other credible candidate, turned down a nomination for the post.

The source described Ramaphosa's reelection as "depressing" because the ANC had done nothing to reduce his workload—one of the main reasons behind his wanting to quit the post.

Asked yesterday why he had changed his mind, Ramaphosa—also chairman of the Constitutional Assembly—said: "I am not answering that. All I know is that I am dead tired."

The source said Mandela and an aide had met Ramaphosa privately to discuss his future after reports that he planned to quit party politics to concentrate on drafting a new constitution. There was also pressure on him from ANC provincial premiers to remain in his post.

Eastern Transvaal premier Mathews Phosa, who called Ramaphosa, said the premiers' decision to intervene was made in the interests of the party's future.

ANC deputy president Thabo Mbeki was also reluctant to discuss the matter, but said it was "a good thing" Ramaphosa had stayed on.

The source said Ramaphosa would probably raise the issue of his workload at a party leaders' meeting in mid-January. Deputy secretary-general Cheryl Carolus was expected to carry the burden of the administrative work while Ramaphosa dealt mainly with ANC policy matters. He was expected to spend three days a week at ANC headquarters in Johannesburg and the rest of his time in Cape Town, dealing with the Constitutional Assembly.

Phosa said: "Carolus should play a more prominent organisational role, while Ramaphosa should be given the space to do his constitutional work."

Of Ramaphosa's workload, Mbeki said the ANC national executive committee would "have to come back to the question of the functioning of the ANC headquarters". Amendments to the party's constitution allowed for deployment of extra officials on a full-time basis.

ANC Plans New Constitution for Majority Rule
MB2212133294 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
22 Dec 94 p 11

[Report by Kaizer Nyatumba]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bloemfontein—The ANC wants a new constitution that would cater for "ordinary, democratic majority rule" without enforced power sharing, an ANC commission on the constitution-making process has resolved.

Justice Minister Dullah Omar told a media briefing that the commission's report had been adopted by the ANC's full plenary session. It wanted a new constitution, not a rewrite of the Interim Constitution.

Omar said the ANC accepted that it would have to work within the provisions of the constitutional principles adopted at the World Trade Centre negotiations last year. He said commission members had asked themselves whether the present Interim Constitution had to be merely amended or completely rewritten.

It had been decided that to amend it would result in a constitution which would hamper the Government's ability to address the concerns of the black majority and undo the legacy of apartheid.

Omar said the Interim Constitution was "a compromise and a product of negotiations". The new one would have to make provisions for the party that won elections to form a new government on its own.

"We have recommended that an ANC commission sits in March next year to discuss the content of the new constitution so that it makes provision for ordinary, democratic majority rule. If there are any coalitions, they will have to be on a voluntary basis."

Observers said the March conference's decisions would obviously bring pressure on the Constitutional Assembly as it carries out its mandate to produce a constitution. The Interim Constitution, which allows for the present Government of National Unity to rule for five years, requires the Constitutional Assembly to produce a new constitution within two years. The Constitutional Assembly (CA) is dominated by the ANC, but includes representatives of all other parties in Parliament. A two-thirds majority is required in the CA to change the constitution. The ANC has a 63 percent majority in the CA—just 3 percent short of two-thirds.

Omar said the ANC was opposed to a fragmentation of the country and a devolution of power, and wanted a balance struck between national reconciliation and bringing the Government closer to the people.

He told the briefing that the electoral system had also been discussed, and commission members were in favour of a system that would combine the constituency system and the proportional representational system to "ensure representation and accountability".

He said the questions of whether SA would end up with a new flag, a new national anthem and different official languages had not been discussed in the commission.

Three SANCO Officials Asked To Step Down

MB2012180894 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 20 Dec 94 p 2

[Report by Wilson Zwane]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The ANC's Gauteng region has asked three senior SA [South African] National Civic Organisation (Sanco) officials to relinquish their positions on the Greater Pretoria Transitional Metropolitan Council (TMC), saying they are not entitled to them. The officials—Jackie Masemola, Nava Pillay and Pasty Malefo—allegedly violated the ANC's code of conduct when they ran against candidates endorsed by the ANC alliance for positions on the TMC's central substructure, which was inaugurated last week. The substructure replaced the municipalities of Pretoria, Laudium, Atteridgeville and Mamelodi.

Masemola was voted co-speaker, Malefo co-chairman of the municipality's executive committee and Pillay executive committee member. The elections took place after an ANC caucus had walked out of a council chamber in protest against Sanco's Greater Pretoria region's decision to put forward its own candidates to run against those endorsed by the alliance.

ANC Gauteng deputy secretary-general Obed Bapela has said the civic organisation erred by putting forward its own candidates. Sanco should have backed candidates endorsed by the alliance, he said.

He stressed that Sanco members did not take part in interim municipal structures as civic officials. They were nominated to the structures on an ANC ticket and were, therefore, bound by the party's code of conduct, which—among other things—stipulated that members should adhere to decisions even if they did not agree with them.

An informed source said yesterday the three officials were asked to relinquish their municipal posts after a meeting of the ANC Gauteng's executive last week. "But the matter will be finalised at a meeting to be held on January 6 and 7," the source said. That meeting would be attended by ANC and Sanco provincial executive committees. The source said if the three Sanco officials refused to step down as requested, the ANC would "recall" them from the municipality.

Sanco Gauteng general secretary Linda Mngomezulu has confirmed there were tensions between the organisation and the ANC over nominations to the interim local government structures. Mngomezulu said Sanco was preparing a document on how to deal with those tensions. This document would be circulated for discussion next month.

Greater Johannesburg Council Chairman Profiled

MB2212132294 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 22 Dec 94 p 13

[Report by Bongiwe Mlangeni]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Greater Johannesburg's "mayor" has very little to say about himself or about his achievements. But when you visit his suburban home in Soweto, just the mention of the name Isaac Mogase makes neighbours' tongues roll.

Like David facing Goliath, Mogase has a mammoth task awaiting him next year. But, he says, he is ready. Within minutes of his appointment as chairman of the Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council (TMC), Mogase was called on to exercise his new powers and chair a meeting labelled as "historic".

It was, he says, an appointment which came "not as a shock but as an achievement." Since then, the telegrams and notes of congratulations have poured in: "I never knew I would get so much support after my appointment," he says. His new role is substantially different to that of president of the Soweto Civic Association [SCA].

"In the civic association, we used to carry a torch of liberation ...now I am supposed to lead a larger society in a democratic South Africa," he says. Although he is excited about his new job, Mogase affirms he will no longer have enough time to play Scrabble with his wife or even go to soccer matches.

"Even then—as a member of the civic association—I had to squeeze leisure time into my schedule because I had a massive task. I always had to keep in touch with my community," says Mogase.

Occupying leadership roles is no novelty for Mogase. A Soweto neighbour remembers Mogase "as a schoolboy in Alexandra who was always concerned about his community". Other members of the community talked about his days when he was the chairman of the ANC Youth League in the 1960s and his involvement in the Defiance Campaign against pass laws.

Ever since then, Ntate [daddy] Mogase—as he is known in the township—has become a "pillar" to most residents. He is the right man for the job, said Regina Mundi's Father Mohlomi Makobane.

"He has shown great commitment to his work. A humble man, who is always available to assist his community irrespective of your status. He is a man of deep faith," said Makobane.

During the 10 years as head of the SCA, Mogase has made many friends. For years as part of the struggle against apartheid structures he encouraged rent and electricity boycotts. He lost many of them when the association began urging people to end the culture of non-payment.

Despite opposition from some quarters against resuming payment, Mogase is undaunted. "My biggest goal for next year is to have services delivered in all townships and to make residents pay."

Survey Shows Rise in Manufacturing, Jobs

MB2012130594 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
20 Dec 94 p 18

[Report by Derek Tommey]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Manufacturing is booming, creating new jobs for the first time for many years, says the Bureau for Economic Research (BER) at the University of Stellenbosch.

Its latest survey shows that manufacturers were taken by surprise by the upsurge in business, saying they were much better than had been expected. As a result, the bureau's business confidence index surged to a level last achieved at the peak of the 1998 business boom.

But while the 1998 boom was led by a gold mining industry benefiting from a devaluation of the rand, the bureau says this boom could be different, with manufacturing leading the way.

Though hiccups may be experienced in the near future, more fixed investment and factory employment, supported by business confidence, should sustain the recovery.

The particularly large increase in production volumes in the last quarter of this year followed increased domestic and export sales and a decline in stocks of finished goods.

This led to a lengthening of the working week and the hiring of more workers. However, the bureau says the improvement in employment is still marginal at this stage and that the pessimism of some manufacturers over the first quarter of next year is worrying.

Also of concern is the possible lack of production capacity in industry. It says it would be unusual for manufacturers to experience capacity constraints at this stage of the upswing. But judging from their responses about the length of delivery periods of orders received and their increased fixed investment, this could be the case, it says.

However, manufacturers lifted spending on fixed investment in the fourth quarter and plan more increases in the next 12 months. This should lead to higher employment and make the recovery more sustainable.

Nearly 70 percent of manufacturers surveyed increased sales in the fourth quarter, compared with a year ago. The ratio of unfilled orders to domestic sales declined between the third and fourth quarters, possibly a signal of a slowdown in demand. But the ratio of unfilled export orders to sales rose sharply, suggesting SA [South Africa] is heading for an export-led recovery.

Although unit costs rose between the third and fourth quarters, domestic unit selling price increases were lower than expected.

NP Wants Boesak's Ambassadorship Withdrawn

MB2112125294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1226
GMT 21 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town Dec 21 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela should withdraw the diplomatic appointment of Dr Allan Boesak until a probe is completed into the alleged misuse of funds by his Foundation for Peace and Justice [FPJ], the National Party

[NP] said on Wednesday. Mr Mandela earlier this month named Dr Boesak permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva.

NP foreign affairs spokesman Dr Boy Geldenhuys said in a statement, no one could properly perform ambassadorial functions under a cloud of suspicion. Contrary to a reply in Parliament by Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo, it now appeared the probe was not complete, he said. The trustees and Danish benefactors of the FPJ on Sunday confirmed they were probing allegations R2 million [rands] had been diverted for private use by FPJ employees.

The allegation, the third against the FPJ in recent months, was reported by a Danish news service at the weekend. It said an FPJ official had confessed the misuse of funds to the police. He allegedly got a "loan" of R800,000 to buy a house.

The report said the probe was apparently a result of a visit to South Africa by Danish Christian Aid Secretary-General Christian Balflev Olesen. Earlier the Swedish International Development Agency began probing the alleged misuse of more than R700,000 granted to the FPJ.

SABC radio news on Wednesday reported Dr Boesak had cut short a holiday in New York, returning to Cape Town on Tuesday. Police have confirmed they are not investigating any charges against Dr Boesak, who leaves for Geneva early next month.

Boesak To Aid Investigation

MB2212193194 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1800 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Johannesburg legal firm has been appointed by foreign aid donors from Norway, Sweden, and Denmark to investigate the alleged misuse of funds donated to Dr. Allan Boesak's Foundation for Peace and Justice. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Correspondent Ed Herbst] Interviewed at his Constantia home, Dr. Boesak said he would assist the investigators in every way and then call a press conference.

[Boesak] I still need to talk with them about the whole situation, and as soon as that is over, then of course we'll be in a position to make a much clearer statement.

[Herbst] Mr. Oleson [Danish Christian Aid Foundation secretary general] indicated that there had been personal loans—there was evidence of personal loans being made to staff members. Were you aware of this, and were you in any way involved?

[Boesak] I was not involved in all of this. I was aware that there had been loans made, but that exactly is a subject of the investigation, and we'll have to see what exactly were the conditions and the circumstances under which all of this happened.

[Herbst] Responding to suggestions that he should be prevented from taking up his post as ambassador to Geneva at

the end of January, Dr. Boesak said the ultimate decision in this regard rested with the state president.

[Boesak] I simply feel that the president does not have to be concerned, just as I am not deeply concerned, that whatever is the outcome of this will jeopardize my post into Geneva. [end recording]

Diplomatic Appointments Under Review

MB2312114894 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 23 Dec 94 p 9

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Africa's diplomats are still reeling at domestic political developments that have made a nonsense of top-level appointments announced only two weeks ago.

Officials at the department are not reassured by Deputy Foreign Minister Aziz Pahad's statement that all diplomatic appointments are now being reviewed in the light of changes abroad.

They believe President Mandela has been "got at" by senior ANC officials eager to see dramatic changes made in the diplomatic service.

Director-General of Foreign Affairs, Rusty Evans, is himself said to be a target for these reformers within the ANC's department of international affairs.

All 16 new ambassadors—13 of them political appointments—were assigned several weeks ago. The announcement of their appointments was delayed pending presidential approval.

On December 13 Mandela had lunch with the 16 and expressed his confidence in their ability to represent the new SA [South Africa] abroad.

Two days later, two of the new envoys—Hennie de Klerk, who was due to go to Singapore and Pierre Dietrichsen, who was bound for Indonesia—were told they would not be taking up those posts.

Both have strong links with the old order. De Klerk, a former ambassador to Canada, was once private secretary to former foreign minister Pik Botha. Dietrichsen was director of Evans' office.

De Klerk might now be sent as consul-general to Los Angeles. Pahad indicated that the change in government in the United States necessitated a strengthening of the South African diplomatic team in the US. There is no immediate indication where Dietrichsen will be sent.

Neither De Klerk nor Dietrichsen were available for comment. Both have made extensive plans to move to their new posts and officials have been named to take posts they vacated.

Officials in the department insist whatever political colouring might be put to the two men, their professional ability is above question.

Nzo's role

There is also dissatisfaction at the role of Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo who is not seen to play a strong leadership role in the department. He approved all the appointments and recommended them to the president only to be overruled.

The officials are concerned at the confused message sent by these developments, both at home and abroad.

For different reasons, yet another of the appointments—that of Allan Boesak to the United Nations in Geneva—might now also be in the balance.

The Danish government is reportedly considering asking the police to investigate irregularities relating to the spending of more than R2 million [rands] in foreign aid received by the Foundation for Peace and Justice, headed by Boesak.

A Danish embassy spokesman, quoted on the SABC, said that a Danish merchant bank had summoned Dr Boesak for an unpaid debt.

The National Party's spokesman on foreign affairs, Dr Boy Geldenhuys, said on Wednesday that Mandela should withdraw Dr Boesak's diplomatic appointment until a probe is completed into the alleged misuse of funds.

Winnie Mandela Accused of Seeking Angolan Diamonds

MB1812175094 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 18 Dec 94 pp 1, 2

[Report by Nicola Koz]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Lear jet Winnie Mandela chartered last year for a midnight trip to Angola was intended for a diamond buying operation, according to affidavits by two business associates.

The Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology allegedly chartered the jet in the name of a poverty relief organisation, of which she was head, to fly business associates to Luanda to "pick up a package" from Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Mrs Mandela was at the airport for the departure shortly after midnight on June 2 last year, but she did not travel to Luanda. Among the passengers was businessman Alan Fanaroff, who was convicted of illegal diamond buying in 1991 after being caught in a police trap in Kuruman, import-export dealer Ben du Preez, Mrs Mandela's driver, John Lawrence, who was gunned down in central Johannesburg five months later, and Mrs Mandela's son-in-law, Prince Muzi Dlamini.

The deal reportedly turned sour—and now a court battle has erupted over the costs of chartering the jet.

Mrs Mandela is being sued by Foster Webb Air Charter for the alleged non-payment of R53,674 [rands]—the agreed charter fee.

In a separate case, the charter firm is also suing Sandton estate agent Isaac Brainin, who had introduced Mrs Mandela to Mr du Preez and had provided a post-dated cheque to Mrs Mandela which he stopped before the charter company could clear the funds.

The proposed diamond deal emerged in affidavits filed with the Rand Supreme Court by Mr Brainin and Mr du Preez in defence of Mr Brainin of Fortune Real Estate.

Attorney for Foster Webb, Harry Nochumsohn of Maisels Smit and Lowndes, said the agreement between the charter company and Mrs Mandela was that she would pay for the flight with a bank-guaranteed cheque at Lanseria airport. However, Mrs Mandela gave the company Mr Brainin's post-dated cheque.

At the time, Mrs Mandela was the executive officer for an organisation called Co-ordinated Anti-Poverty Programmes (CAPP). She used a CAPP letterhead to confirm with the charter firm that "the quote is acceptable to us".

A member of CAPP's board of directors, Moses Chikane, said this week he had no idea about the trip or the jet. "This is the first I hear of CAPP's involvement in buying diamonds."

Mrs Mandela is challenging the application for payment and claims she was acting on behalf of Mr du Preez when she hired the jet.

In her affidavit, Mrs Mandela makes no mention of a diamond deal.

Her statement claims that Mr du Preez asked her to assist him in chartering an aircraft for a trip to Angola.

"At all times it was understood that he would pay for the services since the main purpose of the trip was, according to him, to establish business links for his own benefit."

In his affidavit, Mr Brainin said: "In May 1993 I was approached by both Mrs Mandela and Mr du Preez with regard to certain proposed contracts for the purchase of commodities from outside the country. One such venture involved CAPP. Mr du Preez advised me that CAPP was contemplating concluding a contract with the Angolan government for the purchase of diamonds."

Mr Brainin said he was approached late in the afternoon on the day of the flight.

"The banks were closed and a bank guaranteed cheque could not be obtained. Mrs Mandela advised me that CAPP was without banking facilities at the time and was unable to tender any cheque ... and Mr du Preez was also not in a position to provide any cheques.

"Mr du Preez then telephoned me and asked if I could tender a post-dated cheque. I duly telephoned Mrs Mandela and she explained that her son-in-law, Prince Muzi

Dlamini, and four representatives from CAPP were ready to leave for Luanda and that a meeting had been set up with Mr dos Santos. If the meeting was missed, the entire contract would fall through."

He added that when Mrs Mandela had not paid Foster Webb or funded Fortune Real Estate's bank account, he stopped the cheque.

On Friday, Mr Fanaroff said: "Winnie told us everything had been arranged and that President dos Santos had been informed. When we arrived, we were taken to the president's palace to meet him. But Dos Santos had no idea we were coming. The deal was called off. Winnie organised the whole trip."

Mr du Preez agreed: "Winnie arranged the trip. She asked me to go along and supervise if need be. She said there would be a package of diamonds available."

Mrs Mandela could not be reached for comment.

The case against Mrs Mandela has been set down for May 10 in the Rand Supreme Court.

South African Press Review for 22 Dec

MB2212130294

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Warning Against Dissolution of National Unity Government Now—Rumbles of dissatisfaction with the government of national unity, GNU, "are becoming more audible by the day" and "should not be ignored," declares a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 22 December. The rumbles emanate from within the ranks of the three parties which make up the GNU. The ANC has "formally called for an end to constitutionally prescribed power-sharing and pinned its colours to 'ordinary democratic majority rule'." "Unease within the NP [National Party] over its subordinate role in the GNU is an open secret." The "withdrawal faction is still a minority, which is opposed—for the moment—by F. W. de Klerk." In the Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, there are similar grumbles "prompted in large measure by the belief that the ANC is 'meddling' in Zulu tribal affairs and that it is responsible for the rift between King Goodwill Zwelithini and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi." THE STAR believes that while a parting of the ways "may be desirable after or just before the 1999 election, the advantages of the GNU still outweigh its disadvantages for South Africa as a whole, as well as for the coalition partners."

SOWETAN

Public Service Dissatisfaction—"The strange thing about the threatened strikes in the public sector is that they should be happening under a democratically elected government," begins a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 22 December. Over 100,000 civil servants are being balloted for strike action over pay. The government

"has to move quickly on this issue. The kind of salaries that many public sector workers earn are scandalous and this has to be changed." "Governments that deliver on promises to their constituencies have satisfied and well-motivated bureaucrats. The worst thing to have is an unsatisfied bloated public service which becomes a drain on the country's economy and an obstruction to governmental plans. A new regime should start the ball rolling by having a lean, mean and well-motivated bureaucracy."

BUSINESS DAY

Privatization, Diffuse Ownership of Assets—"While government might want to use privatisation as a means of entrenching insitutionalised black economic empowerment through, say preferential privatisation issues to black-owned investment houses, this should not be the overriding consideration," declares a page 4 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 22 December. The paper points to the situation in Zimbabwe where "since independence, Zimbabwe's black majority has occupied almost three quarters of that country's land. That has accompanied wholesale transfer of previously white-owned businesses to the state. And yet, most Zimbabweans remain mired in poverty." The reason for the "persistent poverty" is that "though Zimbabweans as a whole own the land and assets, individuals cannot use communally owned assets as security for capital to set up businesses. South Africa should avoid that trap." "Diffuse ownership of assets is something to be striven for as a means of integrating large numbers of people into the market system. Privatization, handled properly and in association with removal of other economic restrictions, could help create an investment climate that will lead to solid and sustained economic growth."

Mandela Not Moved From Reconciliation Position—"The chorus of criticism from within ANC ranks over the amount of time and effort being put into assuaging white concerns about the future has not diverted President Nelson Mandela from his crusade of national reconciliation," points out a second editorial on the same page. "The 'Africanist backlash' expected as the party conference in Bloemfontein has not been as strong as hoped for in some quarters, and feared in others."

THE CITIZEN

ANC 'Ill-Prepared' to Govern—"Although the ANC won the election, it was ill-prepared to govern," according to the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 19 December. "This has been shown in the contradictory statements of ministers, the promises that cannot be fulfilled, the growing frustration of party rank and file at the lack of progress in housing, job creation, schooling and other fundamental areas." ANC Secretary-General Ramaphosa has noted that the ANC "has financial, management and organisational problems that hamper its ability to govern the country effectively." But "what he does not say—and which we feel is the kernel of the matter—is that unless the ANC gets its own house in order, unless it organises itself satisfactorily, there isn't much hope of governing the country efficiently."

Angola

Interviewer Says Savimbi in 'Perfect Shape'

MB2212143894 London BBC World Service in English
0600 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After months of speculation about his whereabouts, it has now emerged that the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader, Jonas Savimbi, is alive and well. He had been reported injured or even dead, but a French journalist, Stephen Smith, of the newspaper LIBERATION, has just met and interviewed him in the town of Bailundo near the city of Huambo. Williams Edmund called up Stephen Smith [in Paris] and asked him what impressions he came away with after his meeting with Mr. Savimbi.

[Begin recording] [Smith] Well, in the first place I think he is someone who really feels kind of prosecuted [as heard]. He is really thinking his life is in danger and that the government in Luanda has decided to eliminate him physically. This is the first and the strongest impression. Of course, the first thing to realize is that he is in perfect shape—intellectually and physically. At one point in time he even stood up and started to unbutton his shirt and said: if you want to really see I have never been injured or whatever. For someone who is 60 years old he was in top form. Intellectually, he spoke French fluently, no difficulties in articulating as rumors had thought. So he was in good shape, but I felt someone who was on the run a little bit. He is always thinking that there might be some aerial bombardment. Even when he picks up the cellular telephone he thinks that there might be some electronic way of tracing him and he would expose himself to some attempt to kill him.

[Edmund] He did say in his interview that as things stood at the moment he wouldn't go into Luanda, and that his army would not integrate with the government. It does look as though he is not on his best footing.

[Smith] For now what he wants is a good part of the army. The integration of his forces is what he really wants to, and as long as the UN Blue Helmets are not in number on the spot, he is not willing to send his men under the control of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] generals, as he put it. So I think for the time being he is really bargaining; he is not putting into jeopardy the peace accord as such, but he is really trying to get something, a better share afterward than he could have expected.

[Edmund] The Luanda presidential spokesman, Aldemiro Vaz da Conceicao, has said that, I quote, at the moment I would say the Lusaka Protocol is in a precarious situation. [no closing of quote as heard] How do you see Savimbi going from here on? What do you see as the future?

[Smith] I think he will try to have a two-pronged approach—sending people into Luanda to be in the Joint

Commission that does the follow-up to the agreement so as to show his good will to go forward. He will along the same lines put pressure on the United Nations to deploy the 7,000 observers that should come to Angola, but I think on the other side he will try to keep his military apparatus intact, keep it functioning, and stay himself as a threat, as an alternative, as a way of going back to a military solution. He will stay in the bush actually, pretending that there are security reasons, but also to put pressure on the outside world and on the government. So by this approach he will try to gain some time, and maybe next spring he will try to decide on which leg he is actually trying to make his way. So I see this really as a precarious situation. Now, I think this is quite right—a precarious situation for the peace accord, but I think it's also some kind of realistic hope because Savimbi comes out with what he wants and if he gets to some extent satisfied, there might be a chance that this peace accord holds.

[Edmund] So you still see Savimbi as having a chance to remain as a major player on the Angolan scene?

[Smith] I think so because of his (?apparent) nuisance, because you cannot have any solution in Angola unless you put Savimbi into the picture and he is not willing to go into exile. He was very strong about it. He would rather die in Angola. I think there must be a formula, and apparently he is asking for a good share of power within the army. He didn't put any emphasis on the government posts. So, I think along these lines new negotiations or something like a conversation, a dialogue (?will be engaged). There is a chance that the peace accord might hold. [end recording]

UNITA's Ben Ben Agrees To Meet FAA Chief

MB2212204894 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The second meeting of the Joint Commission is scheduled to begin tomorrow. [passage omitted]

General Joao de Matos, Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] chief of General Staff, and General Arlindo Chenda Pena Ben Ben, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] chief of General Staff, could meet in Sao Tome and Principe within the next 48 hours. Isaias Samakuva, head of the UNITA team to the Joint Commission, says Gen. Ben Ben has responded favorably to the proposal advanced by the FAA chief of General Staff. Gen. Ben Ben's reply has already been conveyed to the Angolan Government, and now it is Gen. Joao de Matos' turn to respond.

Government Said Attacking Bengo, Huila

MB2212135394 Jamba Voz da Resistencia de Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] cannons continue to boom away quite loudly in

Bengo Province. Thus, the FAA forces are flagrantly violating the cease-fire agreement that has been in force for more than one month. The government's war effort in the area is aimed at occupying National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]-controlled areas. Octavio Mulange, the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel [Vorgan] correspondent in the area, reports:

[Words indistinct] attacked [name indistinct] ward on 21 December [words indistinct] the attack lasted three hours and 10 minutes. The government forces were driven back. In their hasty flight, the FAA forces left 17 soldiers confirmed killed and another 32 wounded on the ground. The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] also captured five [words indistinct] and (?six) AKM weapons, with 250 rounds of ammunition each [words indistinct] firearms, and other assorted military (?equipment). [passage indistinct]

Colonel Vicente, of the FAA's 66th Regiment, is leading the government army's operations in that part of Bengo Province.

Meanwhile, jet fighters continue to overfly UNITA-controlled areas in Huila Province. Domingos Mukango, our correspondent in the area, reports that the Angolan Government armed forces have not observed the peace accord and continue to carry out dangerous air raids that make people fear for their lives.

Government Reports 160 UNITA Violations

MB2312114694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The Angolan Government says the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] violated the cease-fire 160 times from the time it was declared on 22 November until last week. Cited by the Portuguese news agency, LUSA, the government said the violations were of a small-scale nature

but caused major human and material losses to the Angolan Armed Forces, FAA. The government said that contrary to what UNITA has claimed, FAA did not carry out any actions during that period.

UNITA Accused of Sabotaging Luanda Power Lines

MB2212204094 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Two pylons along the Cam-bambe Dam-Luanda power line have been brought down with explosives. This was the reason for a lack of electricity in the Angolan capital. [passage omitted]

Joao Saraiva, secretary of state for energy and water affairs, is at the People's Television of Angola studio to comment on that sabotage operation.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Good evening, Secretary Joao Saraiva. It would look like there is now concrete information concerning the perpetrators of this act of sabotage.

[Saraiva] Yes, there has been concrete information since 19 December. That must be made quite clear. The government learned about it on 19 December. Because the matter was so serious, it ordered that the area be overflowed again and the matter investigated. It also handed in an official protest to the correct Joint Commission channels. The Angolan Government has also officially requested that the UN Angola Verification Mission launch an inquiry into the matter. The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] destroyed the pylons at approximately 1630 [1530 GMT] on 18 December. Two pylons came down. We have no doubt whatsoever that explosives were used to bring down those pylons. The material found on the ground is well known to us. We are also familiar with the destruction techniques used. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Benin

President Soglo Receives U.S. Security Adviser

AB2012224394 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-
Television du Benin Radio in French 1930 GMT
20 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] U.S. National Security Adviser Anthony Lake arrived in Benin this afternoon. Anthony Lake, who was coming from Angola, was immediately received in audience by the president of the Republic, with whom the U.S. official held lengthy discussions. Nothing filtered from these first discussions, Fela Weotin.

[Weotin] We know, however, that this visit to our country by Mr. Lake will promote the resolution of conflicts, the preservation of peace, and above all, the reduction of African Army personnel. Mr. Lake will also discuss the questions of debt reduction, environmental protection and, obviously, the issue of sustained development will not be overlooked. It will also be an occasion for the two parties, that is the American and Beninese sides, to examine the role that the Economic Community of West African States should play in regional conflicts. Indeed, no one is unaware of the efforts made by this institution for the return of peace in Liberia. By organizing this tour, the Clinton administration wants to show its support and friendship toward African countries that are committed to the democratic process. [passage omitted]

Lake Comments on Democracy

AB2212120594 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-
Television du Benin Radio in French 1930 GMT
21 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] New African leaders must bear in mind that they have to practice effective power sharing if they expect to remain in power and be competent. This is one of the key ideas enunciated this morning in Cotonou at a conference addressed by U.S. National Security Adviser Anthony Lake. Mr. Lake, who was at the end of a 24-hour visit to our country, was the guest of the Institute of Human Rights and the Promotion of Democracy.

This morning's exchange of views, which was devoted to the advance of democracy on the African continent, was attended by politicians, civil servants, members of major state institutions, National Assembly members, socially influential figures, and the national press corps. [passage omitted] Bill Clinton's special adviser based the essentials of his arguments on the experience he gained from his seven-day tour of the African continent. Highlights of the ideas he spoke on concerning democracy involved the challenges which have to be met, possible options for dealing with those challenges, and certain needs which must be satisfied. The following main points are noteworthy:

African leaders must learn that there is more to democracy than the mere writing of a constitution, taking the oath of office for the presidency, or the creation of a newspaper. Democracy requires leaders who have the necessary vision to defend their ideas, and who are capable of bearing criticism during their entire term in office. It also requires citizens who are determined to participate, not only in elections, but also in making such decisions as executing irrigation projects on their farms or determining where the highways should be built.

Mr. Lake therefore enjoined new African leaders to share power with others in concrete terms. Effective power sharing demands that there are overtures to all the social groups, trade unions, women's and youth's associations, and the cross section of the civil society at large. The U.S. guest also stressed that this presupposes that African governments strive for the enthronement of a culture of political tolerance. It is in the interest of these governments to allow an opposition to develop. Mr. Lake said such an arrangement paves the way for security. He said this approach allows people to express their views and banishes the use of AK-47 or mortars.

In conclusion, the U.S. special adviser on national security issues indicated that the colonial powers have abandoned Africa to face a gigantic challenge, and this can only be done through the practice of true democracy and fair representation. [passage omitted]

Ghana

Official on Liberian Agreement, ECOMOG

AB2212224494 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 22 Dec 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Liberian NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] rebel leader Charles Taylor promised a Christmas gift for Liberians when the latest peace talks opened in Ghana on Tuesday [20 December]. Similar hopes had been expressed before, but the war, now almost five years old, has continued relentlessly. This time though, if not a gift for Christmas, it might be one for New Year because a new deal has been signed by the warring factions. [passage omitted]

So, Taylor wants the Ghanaians to play a continuing role in Liberia's peace process. Certainly, they have done a lot so far. Ghana's deputy foreign minister, Mohamed Chambas, in particular has been busy shuttling between Accra and Monrovia trying to smooth the way. On the line to Accra, Robin White asked Mr. Chambas if Ghana was prepared to continue playing a role:

[Begin recording] [Chambas] Certainly, the chairman [President Rawlings] will be in Liberia for the swearing in of the Council of State. I mean the agreement calls for the Council of State to be sworn in by the chairman of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African

States], so we expect that President Rawlings will be there at that time to undertake that responsibility.

[White] Some of the warring factions, particularly Charles Taylor, would like Ghana to play a more active role because he fears Nigeria. Now, is Ghana prepared to be more actively involved?

[Chambas] Ghana is already actively involved. We work very closely with Nigeria. The force commander is a Nigerian. We have absolute confidence in him, and his deputy is a Ghanaian and the two of them work very well together, and we remain hopeful that we can count on the support of all countries to see it through.

[White] Yes, but to a lot of people's minds, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], the force, has become a Nigerian force. Would Ghana and maybe other West African countries be prepared to do something to make it look more West African and less Nigerian?

[Chambas] Well, Nigeria just by its size alone, I mean, should be playing the kind of role that it is playing, but again, the main constraining factor here has been logistics, and this is where we see that there is a role for the international community. You will recall that in the past, the United Nations had responded by bringing in troops from Uganda and from Tanzania but this time around, we need international support to provide the [word indistinct] or the logistics to the ECOMOG component. This is what will give us the effectiveness to be able to police any violations of the agreement.

[White] Have you asked for help, more help from the United Nations?

[Chambas] Yes, we have done that in the past and now that we have something concrete, now that we have a new agreement, which I believe is bankable, so to speak, that this request will be made. As a matter of fact the ministers in their meeting yesterday took a decision that they would send a committee of ministers to the United Nations, to some Western capitals, and a number of (?sources) to try and see what support we could obtain for ECOMOG but also for the demobilization component of the agreement.

[White] Have all the warring factions[pauses] have they been told by Ghana that this is their last chance and if they do not stop fighting this time, Ghana and everybody else will wash their hands off them?

[Chambas] I think it is very clear and I believe it was a factor in getting them to sign this agreement. I mean, our endurance has its limits. Our capacity has its limits and we, frankly, were getting close to that point and we made that very clear, and I do not think there was any doubt in anybody's mind that if this initiative failed, we would be unable to continue in an endless search for peace. [end recording]

Taylor Pledges To Uphold Peace

AB2212190194 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 22 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The leader of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], Mr. Charles Taylor and his 62-member delegation left Accra this afternoon for Burkina Faso after signing a cease-fire agreement in Accra. Speaking to newsmen before his departure, Mr. Taylor said there is the need for a full democratic government to be installed in Liberia in accordance with the Akosombo Accord without undue emphasis on the formation of the five-member Council of State. He said the current chairman of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], President Rawlings, who is the commander in chief of ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group], should take full control and responsibility for the formation of that government. He contended that anyone who claims to be a true Liberian and wants peace, should live up to expectation.

Mr. Taylor, who had earlier addressed a group of Liberian refugees at the airport, pledged to uphold the peace agreement signed in Accra with immediate effect instead of the 27th of this month. He said as a result of his decision he sought and obtained a nonaggression pact with the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] and Ulimo [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] before he left the peace conference. According to him, peace eluded Liberia not because of the intransigence of the warring factions, but the role the Nigerian contingent in ECOMOG played in the Liberian civil war.

He congratulated President Rawlings and the people of Ghana for their patience and commitment to ensure that Liberia has peace. Mr. Taylor, who apologized to the refugees for keeping them away from home all those years, presented an envelope containing \$1,000.

Rawlings Receives U.S. Security Adviser

AB2112224794 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 21 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The president, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, has held discussions with the U.S. national security adviser, Mr. Anthony Lake, at the Castle, Osu. Their discussions covered the Liberian situation.

Mr. Lake, who made a stopover in Accra from Cotonou, Benin, is on a tour of nine African nations for discussions with their leaders. Speaking to newsmen at Kotoka Airport in Accra, Mr. Lake expressed the support and admiration of the Clinton administration for Ghana's economic reforms and the role of President Rawlings in conflict resolution on the continent. He said serious efforts must be made to end the conflict.

Mr. Lake said the U.S. Government has been working closely with President Rawlings and that his stopover in Ghana was for him to discuss the Liberian issue which is

of great concern to the United States. He stated that the U.S. Government is prepared to help resolve what he called that terrible conflict. He said the international community will help Liberia if the leaders of its warring factions want peace.

Mr. Lake said the current peace talks in Accra should be the last chance to achieve peace. He said the U.S. believes that the Organization of African Unity should do more than it has done in the past. He said the OAU has a new international challenge to help and support the regional groupings in the endeavors. Mr. Lake said the U.S. is helping to create a crisis management center to assist in the resolution of conflicts on the continent. Mr. Lake was seen off by a member of the Council of State, Captain Kojo Tsikata, and the U.S. ambassador to Ghana, Mr. Kenneth Brown. [passage omitted]

Nigeria

Abacha Reaffirms Commitment to Democracy

AB2012215094 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 20 Dec 94

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The head of state, General Sani Abacha, has asked Nigerians to learn from events of the past to enable the nation to move forward. Gen. Abacha made the appeal yesterday in a message to the first Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa memorial lecture in Abuja. He said late Sir Abubakar upheld those ideals and showed transparency in his activities. Gen. Abacha reaffirmed the commitment of the present administration to the enthronement of a democratic system based on social justice and accountability. He renewed his appeal to Nigerians to uphold the ideals of peace and unity in order to move the nation forward. The head of state called on Commonwealth countries to support the Tafawa Balewa Center for International Integration and Development.

The message was delivered on his behalf by the minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Lieutenant General Jeremiah Useni. The chairman of the occasion and former president of the country, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, called on the international community to show understanding of Nigeria's present problems and give the necessary support to overcome them.

Amnesty Criticizes Regime's 'Contempt' for Law

AB2012213594 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 20 Dec 94

[From the African news]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The human rights group Amnesty International has accused the military government in Nigeria of what it calls blatant contempt for the rule of law. An Amnesty delegation, which has recently returned from a 10-day visit to Nigeria, said a series of

decrees passed by the government in recent weeks had completely tied the hands of courts in defending basic human rights. The Amnesty delegation also criticized the government for not allowing it access to a number of detainees, including trade union leaders and other political activists during its visit.

Senegal

Lake Holds Talks With Diouf, Ends African Tour

AB2312110794 Dakar Radio Senegal in French 1900 GMT 21 Dec 94

[FBIS Translated Text] The president of the Republic today received U.S. National Security Adviser Dr. Anthony Lake, who was leading a delegation. The audience took place in the presence of Prime Minister Abdou Thiam, Moustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs and expatriate Senegalese; Ousmane Tanor Dieng, minister of state for presidential services and affairs; Djibo Ka, minister of state for the interior; Madieng Khary Dieng, minister of the armed forces; and His Excellency Mark Johnson, U.S. ambassador in Dakar.

At his arrival at the airport this morning, Anthony Lake was welcomed by Moustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs and expatriate Senegalese. Cheikh Hamidou Kane, minister of commerce and handicraft, was also present to welcome him. Speaking to Sene Amadou Camara, Anthony Lake explains why he chose Dakar to finish off his African tour:

[Begin Lake recording in English followed by passage-by-passage translation into French; processed from the English version] The reasons why President Clinton asked me to come to Africa with the delegation from the State Department and the Defense Department and from my own (?shop) at the White House has been to express our support for democracy and economic reforms on this continent, and also to discuss the problems of conflict regulations under the major conflicts on the continent, which had both to deal with existing conflicts and to prevent new ones. President Diouf and Senegal are both among Africa's great leaders in economic reform, showing the benefits of economic reforms, leaders in democracy, and also leaders in the efforts to keep the peace and build the peace throughout Africa. We have worked very closely—the United States and Senegal—on such issues as Rwanda and Liberia. We have been very appreciative of the way that Senegal has been one of the world leaders in contributing toward peacekeeping operations. So it is very appropriate that we should end our trip with a very important visit, in which I can discuss with the president and (?get) his views on such issues as Liberia, as Rwanda, and how best we can work to restore democracy in the (?continent). [end recording]

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